

THE STUDENT VOICE

WORCESTER STATE COLLEGE

JANUARY 30, 2002



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NEXT ISSUE

THE RETURN OF BRENDAN'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE!

Inflated bookstore prices exposed

Students and faculty dissatisfied with high textbook prices

By Glen McEntire
VOICE STAFF

The semi-annual scramble for course books, which begins several weeks before the start of each semester, is a problem that affects both Worcester State College students and professors alike. It escalates, and continues unabated well into the second week after classes commence.

At the campus bookstore, students shift bulky armfuls of texts and shuffle their feet as they queue-up in long lines and wait to pay for their costly truck. They complain to each other and to the beleaguered cashiers about prices, the unavailability of books and the crowded conditions and mayhem that exists inside the bookstore.

A student who is paying \$66 for a paperback history textbook voices her disgust to the cashier and asks where the money is going. "They sure don't spend it on salaries," the cashier quips. Another customer who is signing a credit card slip for a short stack of books raises his eyebrows and remarks to the cashier, "For these prices I should get the books, dinner and a movie!"

The high cost of books is a major concern for most students, many of whom operate on tight budgets and hold part-time jobs.

Professor Dennis Quinn of the Languages and Literature Department sympathizes with the students' plight.

"Students often have complaints about availability of books, and of course, the price," he said.

Quinn wonders if local booksellers, such as Tatnuck Bookseller on Chandler Street, which owns the bookstores at fellow consortium members WPI, Becker College, and Clark University, could offer a more lucrative pact to ease the burden for students.

Professor Ruth Haber, also of the Languages and Literature Department, wonders why the bookstore keeps sending her books that she hasn't ordered. "I'm concerned that the cost of the books is passed along to the students," she said.

Haber's concern is not without merit. Statistics show that 75 percent of all college students nationwide shoulder at least part of the cost of their higher education. For some, the money they have to shell-out twice a year translates into several weeks' pay, and poses a considerable hardship.

Senior English major Kim Howe shares the outrage felt by most students concerning the price of textbooks at the bookstore. "I agree with the general consensus that the sticker prices on some of the books are outrageous, and it's not necessary," she said. "I find as a resident, that people often don't even buy the book. They wind-up borrowing it off someone else or photocopying pages because they refuse to pay the outrageous prices that are charged at the bookstore." Howe feels that the bookstore prices are not in-step

with students' needs and are badly in need of reform.

Howe has known some students who simply cannot afford the high book prices, and go an entire semester without them. "That's ridiculous; it shouldn't happen," she said.

WSC freshman Tuan Luong is disenchanted with bookstore prices. "Many of the math (and science) books are over \$100, and I've noticed that they keep changing editions," he said.

A sample math book entitled *Algebra For College Students*, 2nd Ed., costs \$95. Another randomly selected text *Biology: Concepts and Connections*, 5th Ed., is priced at a whopping \$134.75. Barnes & Noble sells the same book for \$98.

WSC junior Brendan McGrail feels that the campus bookstore has a corner on the market and victimizes students who can ill-afford the high cost. He offers a reason for the high prices at the bookstore. "It's because they can," McGrail said.

Patty Lahair, a WSC junior, feels that the college's bookstore prices are too high. "I ordered a couple of books from Barnes & Noble and one book was \$15 less," she said. "They are expensive on campus. I'm assuming it's their (the college's) profit. I had to buy one paperback book here that was \$90!"

A spot check of prices for identical textbooks at Barnes & Noble further revealed inflated rates being charged by the WSC more **BOOKSTORE** page 3

Presidential search is underway

Search committee narrows applicants down to 10

By Melissa Maldonado
VOICE CORRESPONDENT

Who will be the next president of Worcester State College?

The Presidential Search Committee is hard at work trying to find the best possible answer to that very question. Acting as a team, these individuals have been locating candidates, checking references, and trying to determine the best successor to current president Kalyan K. Ghosh. They are looking for a president who can, in the words of search committee chair John Dickson, "take Worcester State College to the next level."

It is the responsibility of the search committee to attract and choose from the pool of applicants the best possible candidates for the evaluation of the Board of Trustees.

There are currently ten candidates that are still under review for the position, which will begin in August when Ghosh completes his term.

The new president must be able to encourage academic excellence, optimize a difficult budget, build financial support for the college through political and private venues, promote excellent relationships both within the college environment and externally, support diversity of the faculty and staff, and assist the

technological progress of the college.

The selection began with approximately 117 interested candidates. Of that number, approximately 90 people completed applications. As of the Jan. 24 search committee meeting, which offered a chance for committee members to vote on which candidates were strong enough to move to the next stage, 17 people had advanced to the reference-checking level.

Reference checks have been conducted by small groups of search committee members. Each member carefully reviewed information on all candidates. In addition, each candidate was assigned to a team within the committee for reference checks.

The selection process has been conducted relatively quietly to ensure the privacy of the candidates, many of whom are currently serving in positions where openly applying would compromise their current situation. To protect the potential candidates, only the members of the search committee are aware of their names.

The search committee is comprised of twelve members, nominated from throughout the college, and intended to give fair representation to the various aspects of the college. Representing the Board of Trustees are John Dickson, (who acts as chair and spokes-

person), Gene DeFeudis, and Barbara Sinnott. Rebecca Foley serves as student trustee. Faculty representatives are Donald Bullens, Maryann Power, and Maureen Shamgochian. Sibyl Brownlee, Cynthia Talbert, Carolyn Mathews, Dr. Richard Greene and Dr. William O'Neil also serve on the committee. Dr. James Appleberry, of the Academic Search Consultation Service, is guiding the committee. Judy St. Amand acts as the resource person.

Candidates are referred to by numbers to ensure privacy. Even the members of the Board of Trustees (excluding those actually serving on the committee) do not know the identities of the candidates. This confidentiality is necessary because certain candidates have indicated that they will withdraw their candidacies if their names are made public prior to the final stages.

In the Jan. 24 meeting, questions and responses between different teams covered a variety of aspects, including whether a candidate's references seemed hesitant or enthusiastic, vague or specific. The relationships and relative positions of the references and the candidates were examined.

Efforts were made to eliminate candidates with issues that could reflect poorly on more **SEARCH** page 3

E/O

THE STUDENT VOICE

Editorial/Opinion

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The Student Voice of Worcester State College

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The Student Voice welcomes letter, essays, and articles provided they are typed and are submitted with a name and means to contact the author. Any pieces that are deemed questionable are brought before the executive board. In the event of a tie the Editor-in-Chief has final decision. Letters run at the discretion of the Editor-In-Chief and are subject to editing for style and length. The Editor reserves the right to republish any works at their discretion.

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I am the successor to John Brown III. John and I are completely alike in that we both have served or serve as editor of the Worcester State Student Voice. Other than that, we're diametrically opposed: in our genders, personalities, and goals.

John loves to write, but writing is not his passion. Writing about people and events brought him closer to people, which I believe was his biggest satisfaction from his work on the paper. I commend John for his active involvement, and for leaving me a solid base on which to further build the paper.

I want to write for a living. I already am a writer...if you count the part-time job as clerk/occasional reporter that I have at the Worcester Telegram & Gazette. I work for the Student Voice mainly because I have to; blowing off my college paper could be detrimental to my career.

That's not to say I don't enjoy being here—at least part of the time. I love feedback, and in the full year since I've been at WSC, I have gotten enough to keep me going. However, scrambling twice a month to put together a paper, which few people have proven to read, offers little personal reward—at least not for me. If I didn't love journalistic writing as much as I love anything, I wouldn't be here.

But since I am here, I might as well try to make the Student Voice the best under-read biweekly college newspaper it can be. My main goal as editor is to earn this paper respect—respect from the students, who are my biggest priority. I've heard that this paper is considered by some to be a sister paper to the monthly WSC alumni newsletter, *Communiqué*. In a recent article about local college students' views on terrorism, *WoMag* actually had our student paper's name listed as *Communiqué*. Coincidence? Probably. But *WoMag*'s mistake only intensifies my crusade to make the Student Voice stand out on this campus.

My job as editor is rather tricky. I have final say over everything that goes in this paper, but this does not mean that I am satisfied with everything that appears on its pages. I am rather torn. The Student Voice is funded through the college budget, and the people with the biggest say in its existence are WSC's head honchos. In terms of survival, the Student Voice must publish some really boring, press release-sounding stories, which realistically, only the faculty and administration will read.

However, there are certain stories that need to get into the paper, whether they are interesting or not. Case in point: the current search for a new president of this college. This search is probably the biggest news WSC has to offer the world outside its 58-acre campus. But within Lancer Land, I believe many couldn't care less. Most WSC students, who make up the majority of the Voice's readership, will be virtually unaffected by a switch in presidents. Sorry, President Ghosh. You've done a great job, but I have faith that the search committee will choose a capable person to fill your shoes.

So while I will perform my duty as a non-muckracking journalist, I refuse to cater to every desire of the administrative and authoritative branch of WSC.

I will, however, pay close attention to the desires of the students. I'm working with a strong staff this semester, and I expect it to grow. Investigative reporting, which was a virtual impossibility last semester, shall resume. Our first attempt at an investigative piece appears on the front page of this issue, in Glen McEntire's bookstore story. Unfortunately, the bookstore manager was rather uncooperative and rude—proving that Glen had good reason to look into the situation.

I plan to have a member of the WSC community featured in each issue of the paper. I believe that everyone has a story to tell. It will be our job to figure out what those stories are.

We will rejuvenate the personal ads in the next issue, which will conveniently hit shelves two days before Valentine's Day.

Each issue of the Student Voice will contain a fair balance between the stuff you'll read, and the stuff you won't—like any paper.

I intend to give you more of the stuff you'll read.

Contact Information

If you have a story idea or are interested in becoming a member of The Student Voice staff, please feel free to call us on-campus at x8589 or off-campus at 754-2313. If you would like to submit an article, poem, letter to the editor, or other work, please email us at thevoicewsc@hotmail.com.

Leold

www.leold.com

by Roger and Salem Salloom © 1997

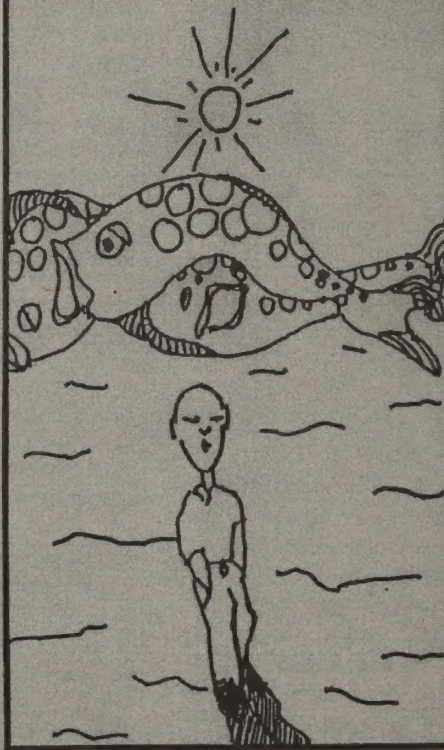
Breaking up with my girlfriend was terrible. We broke up in the beginning of a series of long, dark, cold winter nights.

I began to muscle spasms in my back and develop a facial twitch.

Love is a powerful thing. It can climb mountains, swim oceans,... play chess.

I'll never forget her.

She was so soft. Her sister was so soft. Her goldfish were so soft. They were big enough to take out of the tank and squeeze. They never complained. I loved those little orange fish.



VOICE FACTOID:

Drew Bledsoe came in as a replacement for the first time since 1993 when Scott Secules had started.

Seniors prepare to choose their path

With graduation just months away, seniors begin thinking ahead

By Jessica Killoran
VOICE STAFF

May is coming quickly for those graduating this year and the question is what to do next. Take a year off? Go to grad school? Get a job? The Worcester State community has many different approaches to life after graduation.

Eric Lavoie, a communications major, is not sure what he wants to do after graduation. "I'd like to get into acting but I haven't looked into it," he said. Lavoie also enjoys stand up comedy and thinks it might be something he would be able to do, but he is not certain.

"I work at the YMCA now and will continue to until I find a job in the communication field—something in television," Lavoie said.

Gildas Bah, a math and economics double major, said that he is planning on attending graduate school upon completion of his bachelor's degree. He is now going through the application process, which he admits is difficult. "I want to get out of Worcester," Bah said, adding that he has been looking into Boston University, Boston College and Bentley College.

Bah plans on continuing in the study of economics at one of the above-mentioned institutions with the hopes of teaching after receiving his master's degree.

Bah sought assistance in his search for graduate programs from both the Internet and Professor William O'Brien, of the economics department at WSC.

Melissa Maldonado, an English major with a concentration in writing, shares Bah's need to go on to graduate school. She is applying to UMass-Amherst for its master's of fine arts and creative writing program. Maldonado said that her career goal is to write, as well as to teach English and creative writing at the college level.

Yet another student who plans on furthering his education is Derrick Kiser, a communications major. Professor Alta Carroll of the communications department assisted Kiser

in making his decision to pursue a career in advertising and promotion.

"I didn't know exactly what I wanted to do, but after taking Professor Carroll's advertising class I found my knack," Kiser said.

Kiser has been accepted to San Diego State College and found the application process easy, because the school wants students from the east coast and only requires a 2.7 grade point average. Also, because his father resides in California, Kiser was able to visit the school, speak to counselors there and set up his enrollment.

Jason Garry, a business administration major, has a differing agenda for life after college. Garry is currently in the job market and said he has been on interviews with businesses such as Unum Provident, American Express Financial Advisors, Morgan Stanley, and several health insurance companies.

"I thought I wanted to become a broker after graduation but my heart wasn't in it," Garry said, adding that now he is taking any interview that comes around.

"Interviews are nerve racking in the beginning but once you go on a few you get less nervous and expect to go through numerous interviews in one company," Garry explained. "After one you learn what to expect and what to say and it is important to know about the companies you are applying to. Definitely have good eye contact with the interviewer and sell yourself."

Garry took advantage of career services at WSC and said that Jackie Sproul, assistant director of career services, was a big help. He said that she helped him revise his resume, gave him new ideas and formats, and assisted in writing his cover letter. Sproul also gave him copies of *Job Choices 2002*, a magazine of jobs and how to get them, Garry said.

Sproul explained that when seniors come to her it is usually for the first time. "Students need to explore their fields ahead of time with internships and part time jobs," she said.

According to Sproul, students have been approaching her much more lately. "I've been doing a lot of resume and cover letter reviews," she said.

The career services website is now up and running, Sproul said, and it contains links to jobs and internships. The website can be reached through the WSC home page. Sproul added that there is a job fair coming up in Worcester and there is a link to it on the website.

Through the site, career questions can be emailed directly to Sproul for quick replies and guidance.

"The percentage of students that go on to graduate schools is low here at Worcester State; most students go into the job market after graduation and then later may return to school," Sproul said. However, job searching may be difficult because of the 20 percent drop in number of positions available, she said.

Students need to practice interviewing because resumes and cover letters only get you in the door, Sproul added. "Students need to have a focus and know what they are looking for. They need to do more than read the newspaper want ads. They need to network and send out prospecting letters," she explained.

Sproul said that there are workshops held every semester and she will be going into classrooms to teach resume and job search strategies.

One recent graduate with a degree in biology, Ras Hazard, said he didn't think he was going to get a job when he graduated, yet he landed a position at Q-One Biotech Company.

Hazard only went on one interview and got the position, "I think I got lucky," he said.

Hazard said he owes his luck to the job fair held at the Worcester Centrum Center. There, he distributed his resume and got an interview with Q-One. "After the interview to tell you the truth I really didn't know if I got the job. I couldn't tell if they were just being nice or if it went well," he said.

"Definitely go to the job fairs," Hazard said, adding that students should "try to get as many interviews as possible because nothing is guaranteed."

Students need to practice interviewing because resumes and cover letters only get you in the door, Jackie Sproul said. "Students need to have a focus and know what they are looking for. They need to do more than read the newspaper want ads. They need to network and send out prospecting letters," she said.

SEARCH from page 1

the college's reputation.

The result of the meeting was the narrowing of the field to eight semi-finalists, determined strong enough for advancement to the next step, neutral site interviews. The references of two additional candidates, who advanced to the reference-checking level after the meeting, will be checked as soon as possible.

In the next meeting on Feb. 14, the search committee will determine the content of the neutral site interviews, where the entire search committee will evaluate the candidates.

BOOKSTORE from page 1

bookstore. A history text entitled *The American Nation*, Vol. I, goes for \$70 on campus. The same book at Barnes & Noble: \$30.40—an increase of more than 130 percent.

WSC junior Laurie Bishop thinks the campus bookstore prices are grossly inflated. She feels that since students are footing the bill, they have the right to know why prices are so high. "They're outrageous; I hate paying for books here," she said.

Bishop feels that it's the college's responsibility to intervene on behalf of its students and to insist on price caps.

Senior biology major My Chouinard repeated a common complaint about bookstore prices. "They're outrageous, over-priced, especially the math and science books," she said. Her organic chemistry book cost more than \$100.

The names of the finalists will be made public and they will be invited to visit the campus and participate in open meetings during the weeks of March 11 and 18. On March 25, the search committee will meet to finalize the nomination of finalist candidates to the Board of Trustees.

The Board of Trustees expects to make a final selection during the last week in March.

Additional information on the Presidential Search is available via the Internet at <http://www.fac.worcester.edu/pressearch/>.

Chouinard feels like she's being ripped-off, "especially when they change editions so frequently." Chouinard blames the college for the high book prices.

Senior biology major Jack McDavitt concurs with Chouinard. "In my particular major all the books are very expensive. Unless you're going to go into a teaching profession, the books aren't really useful for a long period of time," he said.

"Science is always changing. Also, you can't sell them back to the bookstore for a good price, so you're kind of stuck with them. I think I'd like to own this bookstore franchise, because it's certainly a money-making operation," he added.

The WSC bookstore manager refused to be interviewed.



WSC student Melissa Angelo carried an Olympic torch last month.

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Letting GO

I'm letting you go at last
With no good byes
Seemingly out of nowhere
You appeared, so briefly
Like an apparition
Then you were gone
In that brief encounter
Your demeanor told me everything
I was just a drop off along the way
You bestowed your gift to me
From your journey
The journey that changed you
What was missing?
Later it came to me
The warmth in your voice was gone
And now you are gone
The sorrow I have carried welled up
inside me
And I could not hold back the tears
anymore
In that release I found freedom
My tears have set me free from you
at last.

-L.B.

The Voice needs you! We are seeking creative minds to submit poems or short stories for the Accentuations page. If you submit a poem or story that is published in *The Voice*, you will receive a *Voice* tee-shirt. What could be better while in college than a free tee-shirt offer. Please send us your writings at our email address, with your name attached. The address is dcampbell@worchester.edu.

I Am Free in My World

I am who I am, no more,
no less. I am an Indian in
my world, no other world.
People may hate me, but
they will never know me.
I live in the White Man's
world, but inside I live
free like an Eagle, in my
world.
-Brave Flying Eagle



The Lover's Mind

How can the pain that tears at me so
Not keep me from existing?
How can its talons gouge my flesh
Yet never steal the smile from my
face?

This world that I've created for
myself
Lets few other in.
But those who find the key are
expected to love.
Why is it that she doesn't?

Daily emotions oscillate
Between love and hate, hate and
remorse,
Remorse and self-loathing.
How has her love changed me?
Why not only for the better?

In the night I sit and pray for release,
Some retribution for the pains I've
undergone.
Yet everyday I put aside the hurt,
hold on to the love,
And wait for the day she will be
mine.

No time is too long to wait for
perfection...
-Brendan A. McGrail

Nothing

"From the outhouse to the
Whitehouse,
It's moaning time."
From the people living is easy,
To the downright sleazy,
It's moaning time.
When it's 4:20 on the clock,
You're drinking triple bock.
In the moaning time.
When you're smoking up a
spliff,
You hope the cops won't catch
a whiff.
In the moaning time.
When you're toking from a
bong
You ain't doing nothing wrong.
In the moaning time.
When the pres. cheats on his
wife,
Even you can get a life.
In the moaning.

-Devan Campbell

In Vain...

In vain, you search for solace in the sea.
Her shores care not what pains your heart to tears,
When ebb and flow and breaking waves to be,
They change, they crash, they justify your fears.
A woman's heart, in secret ways above
Is parallel in ever changing lust.
She loves and hates the ebbs and flows of love,
Desires she change, in changing so she must.
But, should you find the way to happiness
Is deep within her eyes, and smile, and touch,
Look hard, touch well, remember nothing less.
For soon she'll turn, and seeing lips more lush,
She'll follow him, and through the sands of time
You'll slip, mem'ry lost in silent rhyme.

-Bonny Cuccaro

Student activities staff HELPs student leaders

Seven-session leadership program begins today

By John Brown III
VOICE STAFF

A new program aimed to promote the growth of student leaders on campus will take place this semester.

In an attempt to promote participation in campus activities, the Student Activities staff has invited new student leaders to a leadership skill-developing program: Helping Emerging Leaders Progress (HELP). In the past two years, student interest in student organization activities has been consistently on the decline.

Mahi Dias, of commuter services, and Bonnie Richardson, weekend program coordinator, have played an integral part in developing the program.

HELP will take place over the course of eight weeks. Student leaders will be introduced to leadership building programs, team building skills, effective communication skills, leadership styles, diversity, time and stress management, and group dynamics. For each seminar, there will be a different guest speaker to give various viewpoints of the skills necessary to become not only an effective student leader, but also a leader in any given field of interest.

The program begins at 3:30 today in the Foster room of the Student Center. Emerging student leaders will be given an orientation and the chance to get to know fellow stu-

dent leaders of the college community.

Tim Sullivan, director of student activities, and Kristie DeSanctis, assistant director of student activities, asked Richardson and Dias to come up with a program for the new student leaders. Sullivan and DeSanctis already have a program in place for the current student leaders, which runs in the fall.

"There seems to be a trend these days, where there is a lack of student involvement," Dias said. "We are trying to nurture the next breed of student leaders and get them actively involved."

"Students were nominated by staff,

faculty and other student leaders," Richardson said, noting that 19 of the 130 invited students committed themselves to the program.

While it does appear that WSC has a long way to go in gaining the interest of students with so many things to do, with the help of Dias and Richardson WSC should continue to gain quality leadership in its student organizations.

If any student is interested in getting involved with this program stop by the Student Activities desk on the second floor of the Student Center, or call 508-929-8073.

Spots are still available for those interested in participating in the leadership program.

| Topic | Date | Time | Room |
|------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|--------|
| Orientation/Social | Wednesday, January 30 | 3:30-6:00PM | Foster |
| Leadership styles | Wednesday, February 6 | 3:30-5:00PM | Foster |
| Effective Communication | Wednesday, February 13 | 3:30-5:00PM | Foster |
| Group Dynamics/Team Building | Wednesday, February 20 | 3:30-5:00PM | Foster |
| Diversity/Multiculturalism | Wednesday, February 27 | 3:30-5:00PM | Fallon |
| Spring Break | | | |
| Time and Stress Management | Wednesday, March 13 | 3:30-5:00PM | Foster |
| Award ceremony/Social | Wednesday, March 20 | 3:30-5:30PM | Foster |

Sessions begin tomorrow and continue until March 20

HELP MAKE the Student Voice A SUCCESS ON CAMPUS: IF YOU KNOW OF ANY PLANNED EVENTS FOR STUDENTS BY ANY ORGANIZATION, PLEASE LET US KNOW SO THAT WE MAY INFORM THE STUDENT POPULATION BEFORE IT OCCURS. THIS WILL NOT ONLY MAKE YOUR ORGANIZATION STRONGER, BUT IT WILL ALSO ALLOW STUDENTS TO INTERACT AND MAKE SOME NEW FRIENDS.

Web Advisor on its way

MAGIC's replacement should be ready next week

By Jackie Donovan
VOICE STAFF

Worcester State College students were probably distraught in regards to the recent revamp in the college's computer system: My Access to Grades and Information Catalogue, MAGIC.

The change came during the past semester break, at a time when students needed essential information about grades and schedules. When knowledge of grades is vital for future academic plans and when retrieving schedules should be easier than the somewhat archaic form of standing in line at the registrar, there was nothing provided by the college.

Don Vescio, Director of Information Technologies, said that a new system, Web Advisor, will replace MAGIC. It was chosen because there needed to be an upgrade in the accounting system. "All enrollments and grade access information was out of date," Vescio said. "When our accounting system, 'Colleague' was upgraded, we realized that MAGIC needed to be as well."

The new system is currently involved in a testing environment and is expected to be fully operational the first week in February.

Essentially, there was nothing wrong with the old MAGIC system. WSC technology officials felt that the system needed an up-to-date product to integrate with 'Colleague.' Vescio believes that students will find Web Advisor, "easier and much more functional."

In regards to the timing of the updating procedure, Vescio believes that there, "wasn't really a good time" to go ahead with the upgrade. Work on the new system began as soon as resources were available.

"We felt we had no choice," Vescio explained. "No matter when we decided to upgrade, there would be major inconveniences for users."

Fortunately, for some apprehensive users, consultants have said that the upgrade is going well. "Many colleges went through the same type of upgrade, and consultants said that our (upgrade) has gone much better than others they have seen," Vescio said.

Web Advisor is based on the same log-in procedure as its predecessor, MAGIC, and those who use it will simply need their student identification number and a new personal identification number. Web Advisor will be a more stable system than MAGIC.

In upcoming years, Vescio believes that revamps of the system will be less dramatic. "We will be having a regular upgrade schedule," Vescio said. "In the future we are going to try to avoid such a jump so that transitions will be easier."

Students who have questions about the new system, or who are experiencing any technical difficulties can seek information at the Help Desk in Information Technologies, or call (508) 929-8856. Promotional materials to aid students with Web Advisor will be provided around campus.

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MAM

Music, Movies & More

Penn's powerful portrayal provides promise

She does not like green eggs and ham, but she does like *I Am Sam*

By Jessica Killoran
VOICE STAFF

I Am Sam is a film for all who want to see the truths of life. This movie is the sentimental story of a mentally retarded man, Sam, played by Sean Penn, who fights for the right to raise his daughter, Lucy, played by Dakota Fanning. Michelle Pfeiffer's character, Rita, plays his once superficial and stressed high priced lawyer whose life is dramatically changed for the better because of her involvement with the wonderfully amazing character Sam.

This film portrays a unique and simple lifestyle that those in mainstream society would otherwise overlook. The cinematography captures Sam's feelings of confusion in the simplest everyday tasks and really allows the audience to experience those feelings for themselves.

The storyline incorporates The Beatles, as if the band is the staple in Sam's life. Sam uses their music and history to explain his feelings and points, which he has trouble expressing due to his mental illness. This is just one example in the movie that shows how alternative ways of thinking can work.

Fanning does an excellent job of portraying what it is like for a young child dealing with the criticism of her peers. Many do not understand her father's condition and criticize his ability to raise her. However, throughout the movie she knows that her father is all

she needs in life. Her character's innocent yet manipulative personality draws in the audience.

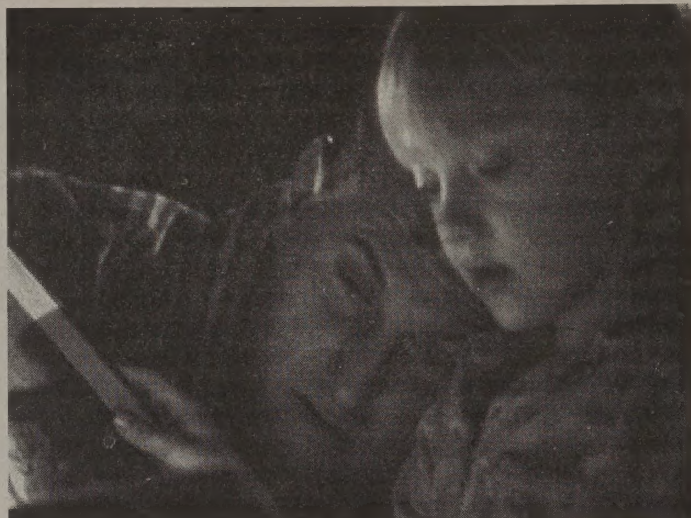
Sam overcomes many obstacles despite his mental illness. Other individuals with mental illness play Sam's friends in the film. Acting as his family and social circle, they bring a humorous twist to the movie while adding a realism and understanding of what it is like to live with such disabilities.

As Dustin Hoffman played an autistic man in *Rain Man*, Penn does the same, but with a more grasping performance. The two characters did possess different types of illnesses, yet in comparison Penn seems more realistic, possibly because of his interaction in the movie with real life sufferers of mental illness.

Rita also goes through a tremendous change that may seem a bit far-fetched, though it adds depth to the story and shows how one man's powerful love of life can affect those around him.

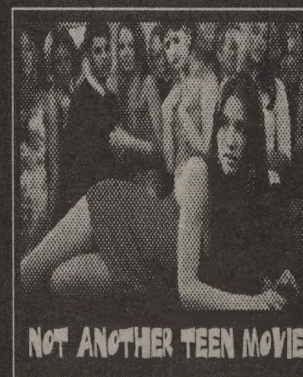
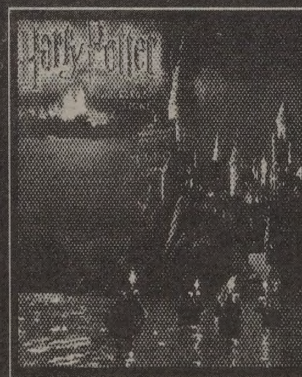
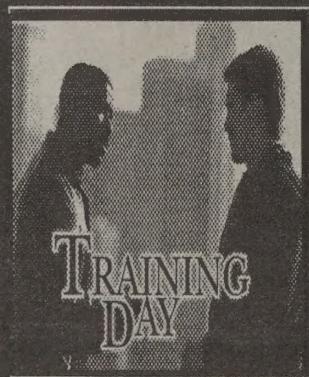
It is not hard to determine who the financial sponsors are in this movie because of Sam's employment at Starbucks and Pizza Hut. Other big names include Nike and Target, which are easily spotted throughout the film.

Despite its blatant display of commercial plugs, this film is moving, heart warming and unique. It shows the simple and caring side of humanity that is sometimes lost within the hectic and crude reality of life. This film proves that The Beatles were correct, "all you need is love."



Sean Penn and Dakota Fanning star in *I Am Sam*, which opened this weekend at Showcase North

Photo courtesy of moviefone.com



January 18
TRAINING DAY
In the Pub @ 9pm

January 20
TRAINING DAY
Dowden Lounge @ 9pm

January 21
TRAINING DAY
NIS Aud @ 3pm

February 1
RIDING IN CARS WITH BOYS
In the Pub @ 9pm

February 3
RIDING IN CARS WITH BOYS
Dowden Lounge @ 9pm

February 4
RIDING IN CARS WITH BOYS
NIS Aud @ 3pm

February 22
MONSTERS INC.
In the Pub @ 9pm

February 24
MONSTERS INC.
Dowden Lounge @ 9pm

February 25
MONSTERS INC.
NIS Aud @ 3pm

March 15
SERENDIPITY
In the Pub @ 9pm

March 17
SERENDIPITY
Dowden Lounge @ 9pm

March 18
SERENDIPITY
NIS Aud @ 3pm

March 29
HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE
In the Pub @ 9pm

March 31
HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE
Dowden Lounge @ 9pm

April 1
HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE
NIS Aud @ 3pm

April 12
NOT ANOTHER TEEN MOVIE
In the Pub @ 9pm

April 14
NOT ANOTHER TEEN MOVIE
Dowden Lounge @ 9pm

April 15
NOT ANOTHER TEEN MOVIE
NIS Aud @ 3pm

April 26
VANILLA SKY
In the Pub @ 9pm

April 28
VANILLA SKY
Dowden Lounge @ 9pm

April 29
VANILLA SKY
NIS Aud @ 3pm

WORCESTER STATE COLLEGE

spring movies

Women's b-ball team travels to England

Over winter break, Carrie Stewart kept a journal of her team's trip to England:
DAY 1 LONDON, ENGLAND

After we flew a six-hour flight to England, we wasted no time and headed right out to do some site seeing. We ventured onto the London Eye, and saw London from the sky view. We also saw Big Ben, the Westminster Abbey and enjoyed dinner at the Hard Rock Café.

When we first arrived in London we had to get the money exchange down. For some of us it was amusing to give them a lot of paper bills and get coins back, which would be like our dollar.

DAY 2 LONDON, ENGLAND

Morning site seeing before the first game of our trip: we headed out to see Buckingham Palace and tried to see the changing of the guards. The flag was up at the palace, which meant the queen was in but we were unlucky and of course didn't get to see her.

One of the interesting things to see was that the police ride around on horseback. We took taxis (they are so different from those here) to the train station, where we rode the train to the athletic center for our first game.

We won the game by 11 vs. the London Towers. The game was tough we needed to get used to the new rules: played with a guys ball, you literally have a jump ball after each jump ball call, no one gets possession of it, the lanes are wider and at an angle, so there is more of a chance to get a 3 second call and also they played 10min. quarters instead of halves.

DAY 3 LONDON, ENGLAND

Spent the day at Oxford, University. This was our day to shop and explore the area around the university. After all day of shopping and walking we came back to the hotel and were starving, so we thought we would order take out. Well only one place was open that deliv-

ered, and believe us it really wasn't good. Everything closes out there so early. Finally we just ordered a movie and watched it in one of the rooms. Good day of relaxation!

DAY 4 LONDON, ENGLAND

Team run in the morning along the Thames River, the scenery was so beautiful. All the buildings are so well defined and gorgeous. After our run we took a tour of the Tower of London, it started out by one of the tour guides (I believe they're called beef eaters) explaining some of the history of a few of the buildings and then we were on our own to look in the old buildings like the bloody tower, the church, and then the Crown Jewels in the Jewel room. These jewels were amazing!

After the tour of the Tower we were off to explore England by the "tube," or our subway. We again went shopping and headed to the trendy shopping areas, which are mostly out doors.

After our day of shopping we got ready to go see a musical at the Cambridge Theatres and then to Trafalgar Square for NEW YEARS Eve. The musical was amazing, we saw FAME. After the musical we walked to Trafalgar square for a very entertaining night. The crowd was out of control the people were crazy, blowing whistles, hugging whoever they saw walk by them, they were singing and then kissing anyone they saw as well. They were crazy people, but it was so much fun.

When midnight came our group of people starting singing "God Bless America," "Proud to Be an American," and a few other American songs. A few English people heard us and taught us one of their songs. "We Love You England." We really saw it all there, it was an amazing night, we probably won't ever forget! Finally we made it back to call our families and wish them a happy new year since they had about 4 more hours before they even

started celebrating!!!

DAY 5 TRAVELED TO WORCESTER, ENGLAND

Here we practiced with a group of high school kids. We realized that basketball isn't one of their big priorities. They couldn't believe that we practiced 6 days a week; they practice about once a week. It was really fun though we taught them a lot of things and since we have been back a few of us have received emails from them saying they want to be more serious and are more motivated to play basketball. That is a good feeling!

After practice our host families met us at the gym and we went off for the night with them. This was different for us though because we had to get used to the way they lived. Many of the families didn't use heat at night. This wasn't fun.

DAY 6 WORCESTER, ENGLAND

Stratford-Upon-Avon, Shakespeare theatre and village. Took and open topped bus tour—Coach and Meredith toughed it out and stayed in the open area, they froze! We saw Shakespeare's birthplace, his mother's house, and wife's house and so much more. The village was a lot of fun, again there was tons of shopping to do in the village and we managed to hit most of the stores.

Second game vs. Redditch Regals...we won by 40! After the game we had a social with the other team and our host families. After the social we each ventured off with our different host families for the last night with them.

DAY 7 WORCESTER, ENGLAND

Spent time down in Worcester City Centre before our last game of the week. We were able to see the Worcester Cathedral as well as do more shopping. The shops in England have the trendiest things; some of the clothes or shoes you just don't see in the U.S.

After the shopping and sight seeing we went to our sister college University Worcester for our final game, this was the toughest of all, and we lost by 12 to Loughborough. Three of the girls for them play on their national team.

Finally to end a great week in England we went to Warwick Castle! This was one of my favorite parts of the trip. Here, at this real castle, they treated us as if we were getting ready to go to war the next day. We had a 5 course meal, we sang songs with the "Earl, and Squire." I can't even describe how much fun it was. The castle was beautiful: the art work that was done there years ago is amazing, they had wax people and things there that if you saw them you would think they are real, it was hard to believe they weren't.

Overall this was the best trip so far. There was so much for us to do and see, that there was absolutely no chance to get ever get bored. We had such a good time and this was a great opportunity for us. I just want to thank the coaches for making the trip so good.

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S P O R T S

Lavoie leading Lancers lately Freshman sensation excels for Coach Tessmer

By Danielle Williamson
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

After coming up short in its previous four meetings with Bridgewater State, the Worcester State women's basketball team seemed determined to even the score.

The Lancers did more than that, holding the Bears, who came into the game averaging over 70 points per game, to less than 60 points, in a commanding 76-59 win last Tuesday at home.

Worcester State improved to 10-7, and rest comfortably in the No. 2 spot in the MASCAC at 4-1. Bridgewater State dropped to 8-7, 2-2 in the league.

"Everybody played solid," WSC coach Karen Tessmer said, noting that all 14 of her players got time on the floor.

WSC's solid defense led to a 27-10 run in the last nine minutes of the first half, resulting in a 39-19 WSC advantage at the break. The Lancers' defensive pressure caused Bridgewater to force a series of shots, and gave them a measly 19 percent field goal percentage in the first half. Bridgewater's leading scorer, junior Stephanie Hurley, was held to five points—ten less than her average of 15.

A tied score in the opening minutes of the game was the closest the Bears would ever come to victory. Junior guard Carrie Stewart, who finished with eight points, gave the Lancers their biggest lead of the game when she nailed a 3-pointer in the waning minutes of the second half, making the score 71-46. The Bears tried to stop the bleeding by shooting

a series of 3s, but their 63 percent shooting during second half was not enough to ever come close.

Precision at the free-throw line helped fend off the Bears. WSC shot 87 percent from the line, compared to the Bears' 63 percent.

Though the solid shooting of upperclassmen Lauren Burke and Erin Largess, both had 11 points, helped the Lancers maintain their lead, freshman Rochelle Lavoie's 24 points was clearly the offensive force who propelled the Lancers past the Bears. "It was nice to have freshman contributions," Tessmer said. Lavoie shot 9 for 11 from the floor, 6 for 6 from the line, and pulled down a team-high 11 boards.

Tessmer also commended Donna Zwemke, who recently resumed play after breaking her collarbone at the start of the season. The freshman finished with two points and four rebounds.

The Lancers will host MASCAC rival Fitchburg State tonight. The women play at 6 p.m. The men will play at 8 p.m.

By Brendan A. McGrail
MANAGING EDITOR

Despite hold its opponents to a mere 32 percent from the floor, the Worcester State women's basketball team lost to MASCAC rival Salem State, 65-55, at Twomig Gymnasium in Salem Saturday.

After beating Bridgewater State on Jan. 22, and losing to Eastern Connecticut on Jan. 24, the Lancers are 10-9 overall, and maintain second place in the league at 4-2. The Vikings improved to 11-5 with the win, and remain undefeated in the league at 6-0.

Unfortunately for WSC the strong defensive efforts went unused. The team shot a dismal 33 percent from the floor. Freshman Rochelle Lavoie was the only player in double-figures for the Lancers. The forward poured in 18 points, added a team-high nine rebounds, including five on the offensive glass, and came up with three steals.

Three-points specialist Carrie Stewart was second on the team with eight points, and hit 2 of 2 from behind the arc. The junior also picked up two steals and two rebounds.

The Vikings' Kara Smolinsky led the way with 19 points, and added five assists and three steals. Casie Rhodes added 12 points for Salem.

Freshman forward Rochelle Lavoie poured in 18 points in the Bridgewater win, and scored 18 more in the Salem loss.

Junior point guard Erin Largess scored 11 points against Bridgewater, and added six points and three assists at Salem.

Lancers have their ups and downs WSC goes 1-1 with MASCAC rivals

By John Brown III
VOICE STAFF

The Lancers managed to put together their first win streak of the season last week, stringing two victories together at the expense of MASCAC rivals, Mass College and Bridgewater State, the most recent victim. The Lancer defeated the Bears 66-57 in front of the raucous hometown fans.

The Lancers came out somewhat sluggishly in the game but quickly put things together behind the shooting of newcomer Isac Outten (14 points). Eric Rhynhart (11 points) accounted for Lancers first four points of the game.

Defense was the name of the game. The Bears were kept under close guard for the first half, with the Lancer defense causing two 10-second violations by the midpoint of the first half.

Jason Gosselin and Corey Carangelo played very strong defensively and kept the Bridgewater State point guards thinking about possible steals. Outten made a steal from a Bear guard and took the ball coast to coast for an easy lay-in. On the Bears next possession Carangelo made his presence felt, taking the ball from the Bear guard for another two points.

Bridgewater was not all that rattled, as it continued to claw forward and keep the game close. With just under four seconds remaining in the first half the Bears had whittled away at an eight-point WSC lead to just one. The Lancers would get one last chance to add

to their lead.

The ball was inbound to Carangelo who hit a wide open Gosselin, who nailed a 15-footer as time expired. WSC led, 32-29, at the break.

The second half of most games this year has been an adventure for the Lancers. They are a team that has taken the lead into the locker room in the majority of their games only to fall short at the end. Coach Lindberg appeared to be unwilling to allow this trend to continue on this night. He constantly roamed the sideline motivating both the players on the court and the ones behind him on the bench.

"I think we are starting to develop confidence and in spurts," Lindberg stated. "I think by the end of the season we will be putting those spurts together and be a more competitive team."

The Lancers came out of the locker room with a great deal of passion and quickly turned the lead to nine points just minutes into the second half. WSC would lead by 10 with just under 15 minutes remaining in the game, and the Bears would get no closer than four.

"Tonight was a great win; we want to be the team that nobody wants to have to play in the tournament," Linberg stated confidently. "We have played two great games, and we played a competitive team tonight and kept them right where we needed to."

By Brendan A. McGrail
MANAGING EDITOR

In a stunning near-upset, the Worcester State men's basketball team took MASCAC rival Salem State into overtime. But the efforts came up just short, as the Lancers lost, 83-80, at Salem.

The player of the night was guard Tom Espinosa. The 6-foot-2 senior poured in 19 points, including two 3-pointers, and pulled down a team-high nine rebounds. Espinosa also made two assists and a steal before fouling out.

The Lancers held the lead at the break, 28-24, before Salem turned up the heat in the second half. WSC held the Vikings to just 26 percent shooting from the floor, while the Lancers shot nearly 50.

Isac Outten was the Lancers' leading scorer. The sophomore guard finished with 20 points, and had three steals. Darron Andrews and Jon Herman also scored in double-figures for WSC, adding 13 and 10 points, respectively. Herman also had seven rebounds.

The story of the game, however, was rebounds and foul trouble. The Vikings outrebounded the Lancers, 44-37 and 17-11 on the offensive glass. Espinosa, Andrews and Brad Mancini all fouled out.

Victor Paulino's 25-point performance, along with 24 from Peter Szklarz, paced the Vikings to victory. The win put Salem to 12-5 overall, and 5-1 in the league.

The struggling Lancers fell to 4-15, 2-4.

Newcomer Isac Outten led WSC to a 1-1 record last week. The sophomore scored 14 points against Bridgewater, and added 20 at Salem.